Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content.

❖BOOK ❖ ɳOTICES.❖

WHY WE BELIEVE THE BIBLE.*

This is the title of a small volume by J. P. T. Ingraham, S. T. D., which purports to be "An hour's reading for busy people." It consists of a series of questions and answers which bring out not only the leading arguments for the truthfulness and divine origin of the Scriptures, but also a considerable amount of information not so closely connected with the subject set forth in the title. It treats briefly of the history of the books of the Bible, the language of the two Testaments, the various versions, the canon, the manuscripts, and other topics pertaining to introduction and criticism. The aim of the author seems to be to provide a hand-book adapted to the use, not of scholars, but of the common people who have neither the inclination nor the ability to study the more elaborate treatises on these subjects. While "busy people" engaged in literary and professional pursuits cannot be expected to have a profound knowledge of these questions, it is important that they should know something of them that they may be able to answer intelligently the shallow objections to the Bible which they hear on the street and in the shops. The information here afforded will, no doubt, strengthen the faith of many a humble believer, and fortify him against the prevalent skepticism of the day. For his effort to make such subjects popular, the author is worthy of high commendation, and he should have the sympathy of all lovers of the Book.

The general plan of the work is this:—the chief facts of biblical history are stated in chronological order, the various questions of doctrine, introduction and criticism being briefly discussed in connection with the facts, and the proofs given in the form of numerous references to the Scripture. The organic unity of the two Testaments is firmly maintained, and the principle of unity is rightly found in the Messiah who is promised in the earlier revelation and presented in the later as the fulfillment of that promise. It is questionable, however, whether this idea is not carried too far, and whether the expectation of the Messiah is not made to explain some Old Testament facts with which it has no connection whatever.

The author is evidently a man of firm convictions, and he does not hesitate to make positive statements about many questions concerning which the best scholars are not by any means agreed. By failing to distinguish between the probable and the certain he runs the risk of weakening the reader's confidence in his general accuracy. Too dogmatic assertion on controverted points certainly detracts somewhat from the value of his book.

---

* WHY WE BELIEVE THE BIBLE. By J. P. S. Ingraham, S. T. D. New York: *D. Appleton &
Co.* 16mo, pp. 155. 70 cents.